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ble in its treatment of degeneracies of evolution, a subject which, so far as we know, is not found so well treated in any book in the English language. We cordially recommend it to the profession.

M. D. EWELL.

The Kent Law School, Chicago.

October 30, 1894.

COMMENTARIES ON THE LAW OF PERSONS AND PERSONAL PROPERTY, being an Introduction to the Study of Contracts. By THEODORE W. DWIGHT, late Professor of Law at Columbia College, New York. Edited by EDWARD F. DWIGHT, of the New York Bar. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1894.

This work is confined in its scope to those topics included in the learned author's lectures at Columbia Law School immediately preceding the course on contracts. The first book deals with the law of personal rights and personal relations, and chapters are devoted to citizens, aliens, infancy, and finally to corporations. The important part of the second book treats of the method of acquiring ownership.

The book, while intended primarily for students, recommends itself not only to neophytes but to the young hierophants in the temple of justice, and may well be read by those who care to refresh their memory and understanding by reviewing the fundamental principles on which the law must ever rest. While neglecting none of the masters who have preceded him, nor forgetting the judicial declarations germane to his subjects, the work is not a mere digest nor a compilation of excerpts loosely thrown together as so many text-books are, which bear the impress of being written to order. The author has stamped his individuality on his work; his plan or scheme is well defined and sustained. The subject-matter is marshalled with intelligence and in natural sequence. The style is simple and terse but interesting and attractive.

The tables and index are full and complete, and both suggestive and responsive. It is sufficient to have named the publishers to give assurance of all the superior excellences of

the bookmakers' art, which always delight us in the productions of Little, Brown & Co. Even in these days of multitudinous productions this work may be said to shew cause.

E. P. ALLINSON.

CASES ON CRIMINAL LAW. By JOSEPH HENRY BEALE, Jr., Assistant Professor of Law in Harvard University. Harvard Law Review Publishing Association.

Professor BEALE, in his recent work upon selected cases from the Criminal Law, has placed before the profession a work which is entitled to the highest appreciation. In the arrangement of the cases, Professor BEALE has brought into accessible form, and disencumbered of text, what has been heretofore involved in text and note and almost concealed in the accretion of years of legal literature.

In the reported cases, the Bench, speaking, give the reason "for the faith." The cases present the Criminal Law in clear, concise and forcible terms, that are easily apprehensible.

The work evinces thoughtful care in the selection of the cases and an intelligent appreciation of the principles of the law concerned in the arrangement.

The range of the cases is from the early times of reported cases to the more recent English and American periods. The author, in presenting a principle of the Criminal Law, selects a case which elucidates it so clearly that the reason therefor stands forth as a model of perspicuity.

Professor BEALE, with great modesty, announces that the "collection of cases is chiefly intended for the use of classes in the schools." As a method of enabling the student to grasp the legal principle contained in the discussion of the case by the paths of thought, the syllabus has been dispensed with. An index, however, with the case in point, is attached to the work.

To the lawyer, the case involving the principle is readily ascertained, and to the student, the cases being grouped under the appropriate headings, the defined purpose of Professor BEALE is accomplished, the development of the mind by its